

**Discovered, in some**

PROPOSALS  
To the Honourable  
House of Commons.

FOR

Employing the Poor, to gain the Hidden Treasures of this Kingdom, (which are here proved to be above 30 different Species of *Mesals* and *Minerals*,) so as to Encrease the Royal Revenue a Million a Year, the Wealth of the Nation many Millions; and give opportunity to Establish as strong Forces at Land without Charge as the Nation may require; Strengthen the Fleet, and occasionally suppress Vice.

Some Remarks for Importing a certain Number of *Irish*  
Lean Cattel and Corn; and taking off some grievous Op-  
pressions, by a Court of Conscience, and this Mineral  
Manufacture.

Humbly Submitted by M. S. <sup>Moses Slinger</sup>

Quid nos (quid dico) mortalia pectora quarant,  
Nil si cura deest magna petente Deo.

L O N D O N,

Printed for D. Brown, at the Black Swan without  
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П. С. П.

The following are the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various positions in the Government of the State of New York:

GOVERNOR - JAMES B. ALBANY  
VICE GOVERNOR - JOHN W. BOGERT  
COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE - JAMES C. CLARK  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - JAMES H. COOPER  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - JAMES D. CONKLIN  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - JAMES E. CORCORAN  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - JAMES F. CROFT  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE - JAMES G. CUNNINGHAM  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR - JAMES H. DAVIS  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND FORESTS - JAMES I. EVANS  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURE HISTORY - JAMES K. FAIRBANKS  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PRISONS - JAMES L. FLEMING  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - JAMES M. FLETCHER  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILROADS - JAMES N. FORTY  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXES - JAMES O. FREEDMAN  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TOWNSHIP AFFAIRS - JAMES P. FULLER  
COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS - JAMES Q. GALE

2. M. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 831. 832. 833. 834. 835. 836. 837. 838. 839. 84

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W O O D S

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Peter Murray Hill

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ENGLISH and WELSH  
**Mines and Minerals,**

Discovered, in some

**PROPOSALS**

To the Honourable

House of COMMONS, &c.

*May it please Your Honours,*

**I**T is extremely well known to you all, That it is the greatest piece of Wisdom in a Commonwealth, when true Measures are taken to make it Safe, and maintain its Honour and Happiness.

If it be an Island, then it is absolutely necessary to ride invincible Masters at Sea, and a most potent Force kept up at Land; and to have such Manufactures establish'd, that may make Trade flourish, support Credit, remove Oppression, and employ the Poor.

It is Reported of the Government of *China*, That there's scarce any Poor in their Streets, nor the length of a Man untill'd, or not improved in the whole Country; their Arts and Trades so Flourish, that all Industrious Nations admire and desire their Arts and Manufactures; their Towns are like to great Cities, the Mansion-Houses of their Gentry like so many goodly Towns; all which shews the wisdom of their Governors, and their Encouragement of Arts and Discoveries.

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And

And it is well known, That this Island of *England* has also a wise politick Body of Governors, and a most Excellent King for their Head, as both the greatest Counsels abroad, and the whole World does allow, and their prudent and valiant Management, during this long and dreadful War, and their ending it in such an Honourable Peace, does also most plainly demonstrate.

And seeing it amuses the Wise, that no more Disorder are crept in, during such Fatigues of Ten Years vigorous War, and the speedy and effectual provision to Remedy all things that require it, that it dashes all my apprehension that I should Inform you any thing; only I humbly conceive that what I briefly Hint, may serve as a Remembrancer.

For your Honours very well know, That *England* is a most wholesom situated Island; an industrious, ingenious, generous People, a Fruitful Surface, but a thousand times more Wealthy in Subterraneous Productions, that are to be got and raised without the least Damage or Incumbrance, but great Profit to the Owners and Proprietors.

The quicker to demonstrate my meaning, I beg leave to admit this one Example, That permit I have an Estate of waste Ground, upon the desert Moores and Peak Lands, that extend from the *Moore Lands* in *Staffordshire*, to *Scotland*, upon which a Man may Travel almost 200 measured Miles, without going through Gate or Town, and the too weary Travelers, that have Money, are too often necessitated for want of Relief and Information. And most of this is Crown Land, and the present Joynture of Queen Dowager: Also the Desert Forrest of *Snowden* in *Wales*, near 80 Miles in Circumference, whose Mountains are rich in Mines, and want Inhabitants, so much as the other Northern waste Grounds, and these are a great part in Grant to several persons, for certain Chief Rents: As I have my Grant, which is considerably Large, and on so Encouraging Terms as the rest have, but in one Mile Square at present, cannot propose my self to make above 20 *l. per Annum*.

But if some able Person (as hereafter demonstrated) would bring 100 Men, with their Wives and Children (now chargeable to several Parishes) and build Cottages, and Inclose, Till, and Quick-Fence, paying me a certain Chief, and the Cottage after Years to return to the Queen, or her Successors, would be a considerable Improvement; and these

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Persons to work the Mines in this Waste, paying me, during my Grant, an Eighth part of what Metals, and Minerals they shall find, and liberty to venture a Third, or Fourth part when and where I please, I shall be sure to get a most plentiful Fortune by it, without hazard, and the Estate when my Grant is ended, a thousand times better than when I began; and after 12 or 15 Years of my Grant of 31 Years is expired, I may well afford to pay the Queen a sufficient Fine to renew my Lease.

This will not only enrich me, improve the Estate to Proprietors, and add to the Wealth of the able Person Adventuring, but also advance the poor Families, who before were Burthenome to the over-Stock'd Parishes; and withal prove very beneficial to both King and Nation, in almost innumerable Advantages, as to Taxes, Fighting Men upon occasion; encrease of Trade by Sea and Land, &c.

And this Improvement in my Grant, can be no Damage to Sir Thomas Grosvenor, who has so many Thousands per Annum, in Lead Mines in Wales; neither to Sir William Blackett, who has his Thousands a Year, in Lead Works in the North of England; neither to Sir Talbot Clark's Copper and Lead Works in Cornwall, Somersetsshire, Wales, &c.

Neither if Coles be found on my Grant, will it Damage the Colliers in the North, nor Esquire Walkins's in Leicestershire, nor any other.

Neither if Alom, Vitriol, Iron, Tin, Lapis Calaminaris, &c. be found on my Grant, or on those other Waste Grounds, can hinder other Men, who have any Work Mines of their own, for the World is wide enough to vend them; and when these are in the Hands of a few able Men, they can raise the Price as they please, by which it will be a great Advantage.

I would not be Mistaken, in the Methods I propose to effect this, that any Gentlemans Estate should be invaded, contrary to their desire; but that none shall have their Mines wrought this way, till they first Petition the Board of Commissioners so appointed, to give their Order; and I believe, upon these Terms, there will be few in England, but will much rather desire than refuse this Assistance.

For you know, Gentlemen, That it is common in places where Mining is used, for the Proprietors, as Lords of Man-

nors, &c. to let and let Leases to ordinary Persons, of their Royalties and Mines, for a Duty of a 6th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 12th, or sometimes a 20th part of what Oars and Minerals they shall find, and these Undertakers are forced, too often, to desist their Enterprize for want of Money, or Art, or both; but if their Mines be let to such as neither want Art nor Money, they will not fail of giving the Product, and their Lands yield unexpected Fortunes, and the Surface Improved: for if it be Boggy or Wet Ground, then it will be drained and made Sound; if Barren and Waste, it will cause them to be Inhabited and Improved; if they should happen in good Ground, then will the Wood and Herbage yield more price, for divers Reasons well known, and a Shaft or Pit takes up but the room of a Draw-Well, which when they have done with, they fill up again.

If the Proprietor or Lord let his Mines for a Fifth, as some do in *Cornwal*, and venture a Third of the Charge, for a Third more of the Profit; if the Mine prove Rich, he gets enough for a Subject, except he would be *Raymond Lully*, *Basil Valentine*, or the great and mighty *Giber*, who, they say, had the Philosophers Stone: and if the Mine prove bad, they themselves will think their share of Charge too much.

Again, if a Man Lets his Royalty or Mines, to be wrought for a certain Duty, his Lawyer knows how to place words in the Lease, that there shall be no Incumbrance if the Estate be afterwards to be Sold, or Transferred, but much rather an advantage; because there is great probability that large Fortunes, or Profits may arise, without hazard or charge, to the former or latter Owners, by the Duty he has payed him of each thing raised.

And neither can any thing Incumber or damage, where Proprietors can appoint whom they please, to Controul in the working and ordering their Mines; but none can Controul in this affair; but your selves (who are Proprietors) or whom you appoint in each County: Therefore there can be no incumbrance or damage.

His Majesty most Graciously recommended in His Speech, that you would not be wanting to your selves, and how far this may extend in that Point, all after Ages as well as this present, will Proclaim with Joyful Memory.

And

And it is well known to you, that a barren Estate, not worth 80*l.* Purchase, upon the Discovering of a good Mine, has advanced in a little time to above 8000*l.*

For Instance, the Lady — Estate in *Devonshire*, which was Lett at 3*l.* per *Annum*, but now brings her in 600*l.* per *Annum* for her Duty of a 6*th* Dish. or Part.

But I expect these will meet with opposition from Four sorts Men, (but I doubt not but the Wisdom of this Honourable House will protect it) *viz.*

*Imprimis*, Those that are Biased against the Present Government, because it will be of such great benefit to the Crown.

2. The Dog in the Manger, or those that had rather the Riches under ground should lie obscure to Eternity, because their Sence and Purse cannot gain them, rather than any other should gain something, so well as they, by raising them.

3. The Envious, that are always Angry, that any thing should go on but what they are the Proposers of, or at least have a great Hand in.

4. Of as ill Consequence are those, who are ignorant of the Subterraneous Productions, and their managements; but if any of these raise any Objections worth Debate, I doubt not but to Answer them fully, if permitted there-to.

May it please you to remember, that the Mines of greatest Value are most commonly found in the Mountainous Peak, and wast Grounds of the Kingdom.

And the Mines that I already have discovered, and know of, are *Gold, Silver, Quick-Silver, Tin, Copper, Lead, Iron, Antimony, Regulus* for Founders and Pewterers, Natural *Bell-metal*, various *Merchassites, Lapis Calaminaris, Pyrites, Vitriol* of *Mars* and *Venus* both Natural and Artificial, *Niter, Sulphur, Alom, Salt, Amber, Christal*, with several Precious *Gems, Marble, Alabaster, Talck, Boles* and *Oakers, Bitumen, Pitch, Coals*, excellent Vitrifying *Minerals*, variety of Petrefactions for Edifices, several Valuable sorts of Earth for sundry Purposes.

If it be acceptable, I shall endeavour when (Commanded) to shew the nature, use, knowledge and management of these *Minerals*, and I now set each *Friday* apart, to In-

Instruct such as apply themselves to me, the in knowledge of *Minerals*, separation of *Metals*, &c. that I may encourage (to my best abilities) the discoveries of the hidden Treasures in each part of His Majesties Dominions.

And because, that some Gentlemen in the House, whose affairs may not have permitted them opportunity, to know that our Kingdom is stored with these above written Treasures, I beg leave to instance a few particulars to Inform them.

And First, That there is *Gold* in these Northern Kingdoms, has appear'd by the *Gold Mine* found a few years since in the Edge of *Scotland*, which was overthrown by *Stock-Jobbing*.

And the perfect Veins of *Gold* in Mr. *Kenedy's* Estate in the Highlands of *Scotland*.

And the Blackish *Minerals* now to be had, and got, in and near the Forrest Hills in *Leicester-shire*, that afford *Gold*.

And last Summer I made an Essay of some *Copper Oar*, got in *Cumberland*, in the Queens Lands, that held in Refined *Copper* near a 30th. of fine *Gold*, which is sufficient.

The quantities of *Silver* that have been found in the *English* Mountains, come not much short of the common Mines in the *West-Indias*: For instance, the Mines Recorded by the worthy Mr. *Webster*, in his *History of Metals*, P. 20, says he, I know of 2 Places in *Craven*, in the *West-Riding* of *York-shire*, where formerly good *Silver Oar* has been gotten, the Oar on *Brunghill Moor* in the Parish of *Slaidburn*, where *Sir Bevis Bulmore* got good store of *Silver Oar*, that held about 67 l. per Tun, which is 1 Ounce Troy, 5 Penny Weight, 6 Grains in 1 Pound, which at 6 s. per Ounce Fine, is 7 s. 7 d.  $\frac{1}{2}$  Sterling value in each Pound. The other place was in the Township of *Rimington*, in the Parish of *Gisburn* in *Craven*, (aforesaid) in a Field called *Skelkorn*, belonging to Mr. *Pudsey*, who in *Queen Elizabeths* time, got store of *Silver Oar*, who converted it to his own use, or rather Coined it, as many do believe, there being so many *Shillings* marked with an *Escallop*, which the People of that Country call *Pudsey's Shillings* to this day, and out of the Oar got out of the *Hillocks*, we Refined 26 l. out of a Tun.

The Mine from which I had some *Cumberland Lead Oar*, brought me to make an Essay of, I Smelted and Refined  
for

for Instruction before the Czar of *Muscovy* when at *Dorset*, it yielded 2 *Penny Weight* upon the *Pound*, and Sir *Carbery Price's* Mines of late, with those of Antient Date, in *Wales*, are sufficient proof of *Silver* here.

And for *Quick-Silver* which is now so scarce and valuable, near 7 s. per *Pound*, it is no Herculean task to prove it considerably gainable in this Kingdom, for inasmuch as to my knowledge, Copper Oars (except a few sorts) are yet unknown to most of our *English* Artists, and most of our Miners are ignorant of any thing but what is common in that County, or a few Miles in which they have led their Lives: For Instance, the Miners in *Darby-shire* are altogether ignorant of the *Tin Ores* in *Cornwall*, on one side, and of the *Lead Ores* of the North, on the other side; and *Cornish* Miners know neither the *Black Lead* in *Cumberland*, the *White Lead* in *Craven*, nor the *Tin* in *Darby-shire*. And if so palpably ignorant in those *Ores* which few *Minerals* only, and where they have led their Lives, how should we expect them Artists in the others, which are so different in their several Species.

I have had 18 sorts of *English* Copper Ores, as Blew, Green, Liver-colour, Yellow, Copper-colour, of various mixtures, &c. too tedious here to describe.

The County of *Cornwall* is better by many Thousands, for the Copper yearly raised there.

And I have also had Eight or Nine sorts of *Lead* Ores; as White, Black, Small grain'd, and Pottern, &c. And *Quick-Silver* is seldom found in its own Form, any more than *Gold*, *Silver*, or *Copper*, but is extracted from its proper Mineral, of which there is a dozen or more various kinds, as Red, Black, Brown, Yellow, Gold-colour, Silver-colour, Ash-colour, &c. And out of a sort of shining Ore brought me from *Wales*, I got good quantity of *Mercury*. And of *Tin*, there is as great variety of its Ores and Minerals, as of any other Metal whatsoever.

*Iron* is so well known, and its use, and the way to make it Steel, that I need hint nothing of it.

*Antimony* is found in large Quantities both in *England* and *Wales*.

*Regulus* for Founders and Pewterers, and *Marchasites* of Copper and Tin, are generally reckon'd amongst the imperfect mixt, and are found in many places, but for want of Art, they are rejected.

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Pyrites,



Pyrites, is a yellow Fire-stone that far transcends Flints, for Guns and Pistols, one piece of which doing more certain service than twenty Flints, and rarely fails to give good Fire; it is excellent in Artists Hands for Medicine, and may be of great use in Wild-fire and Bombs.

These things being so well known to most of you, that I need add no more of the Particulars here; only, That there is very rarely a Vein found in any of our English or Welsh Mountains, but it produces some one or more of these Minerals, before enumerated.

Many have been the Attempts to gain these hidden Treasures, but has succeeded only in some of the meaner sort, because these Mineral Undertakings have been too chargeable for the Pockets of a private Subject; and besides, they wanted Skill in general, and those that had Skill, commonly said for want of being assisted with Money, no Act being yet made to encourage Artists in Mineral Discoveries.

And another great Misfortune these Discoveries have met with, by Stock-Jobbing and Pretenders, who have reduced the best Discovery to the Scandal of a Project; but Stock-Jobbing and Imposition on worthy Enquiring Gentlemen, will be prevented by this.

But these few baser Minerals, as Copper, Tin, Lead, Iron, Antimony, Allom, Vitriol, Pitch, Coals, Salt, Marble, and the Glass Minerals, that have been wrought something near Perfection, are not short of any of their kind in the World, either in quality or quantity.

I most humbly conceive that if these were manag'd by a National Stock, by such fit Commissioners as your Wisdoms can Elect, would encrease the Wealth of the Nation near a Million a year, the Riches of the People, make Trade Flourish, employ the Poor, strengthen the Fleet, and add to the Force at Land, without any sensible Charge to the King or Nation, but would tend to the perfect Improvement of the Kingdom in general.

And I am sure your Honours know, That if Sheeps-Wooll, with a few Skins and Hides, can make such profitable Manufactures, these many Rich, Subterraneous Productions, with due management, will scarcely fail to make London so plentiful as Jerusalem was in King Solomon's time.

I humbly

[ 44 ]

I humbly conceive, with submission, That if the Mines and Minerals in the Waste Grounds, Moor-Lands, and Peak, (except those in possession of such who do sufficiently work them, as hereafter humbly proposed) be set or let to the King and Government, at such a Duty as shall be thought fit by this Honourable House of Commons, with a reserve for the Proprietors to venture, if they please, and receive a Third or Fourth part in their Mines, besides their Duty, be it a Fifth or Sixth part or dist.

And this to be carried on, either by a National Stock, raised by some equal Tax, with the Poor People that are burthenfome, and receive Alms, sent out of each Parish to the next Mines, and the Collection or Pound-Rates gathered for such Poor by the Church-Wardens and Overseers, be paid into the Treasury appointed for the Mines, Quarterly, except so much as Relieves the Superannuated and Impotent, and Children under 6.

I am Inform'd 1,500,000 *l.* is yearly rais'd for the Poor, thus; 7*d.* in the pound quarterly, and they make 5 quarters in the Year; that is to say, an additional Tax or Quarter, which makes much about the same with 3 *s.* Land Tax, which amounts to about a Million and half yearly.

Some may Object, That in some part of *Wales*, and some of the *Northern* parts, they do not collect in that manner for their Poor, 'tis a great shame they do not, for I have known some to perish miserably by that defect; but an Act of Parliament can mend that proceeding.

Or else by a Stock or Fund of 3 or 4 Millions (besides the Collection for the Poor,) to be rais'd by Subscription, as the New *East-India* Company did the two Millions, which was subscrib'd in 20 hours: and no doubt but those Manufacturers, Handicrafts and Merchants, that Work and Export the Vessels and Goods made of these Productions, would subscribe and raise 3 or 4 Millions, as soon as occasion should require it, being allowed 8*l. per Cent.* or such Interest as the House allows, to be paid out of the first products of the Mines, at 10*l. per Cent.* cheaper than those that subscribed not.

And with submission, I also conceive, That these Riches ought to be in the Hands of the Government, and because none but a National Stock can obtain them, therefore none  
so

to fit to be intrusted with it, and none but they so proper Judges of the value of such great things.

For the Ignorant Country-Man knows not more of these when his Plough or Spade turns up any of these, than *Esop's* Cock did of the Gem he found on the Dunghil: besides, it is not fit that any Enemies of the Nation should be suppli'd with 'em, as they will if needy Subjects have 'em, who must sell to any body for Money, at ordinary prizes; but if they be put into the Hands of the Government, they can sell to whom they please, for what price they please.

And if we sell none of our own choice Products or Manufactures to any forreign Shipping, but what is sold shall be sent to this or that place, on our own Bottoms, or Merchants Ships, as the King and Government pleases.

And again, if all things be Prohibited, from other parts, (in such ways and manners as your Wisdom directs) that our own Nation produces in perfection; and which our Manufacturers perform true Workmanship in. And that no Foreigner shall Set up his Trade here till he be Naturalized; but he that can teach any curious Arts, or Discoveries, to be Liberally rewarded for his Instruction, and Discovery, by a Stipend for Life: ) This will strengthen the Fleet, encourage the Merchants and Tradesmen, and debase or discourage, those that may annoy us.

200000 Strong Men will be fully employed in this affair of Minerals, besides Women and Children, and those that want a Leg or an Arm, or some Eyesight, may be useful in picking, sorting, knocking, dressing, and washing *Ores*; and what part of those 200000 Men the House of Commons approve of, may be added under the same Lieutenancy as the Militia is, and Exercised on those days that Miners keep as Holidays.

20000 Horse will be employ'd in carrying *Ores* to the Mills, Water to the Mines, the *Metals* and *Minerals* to the Store-Houses and Markets, &c. to these, some regard being had to their sizes, may be Exercised as Dragoons, and Civilized with the other, by regular Martial Laws; these will be a Trusty, Valiant, and Hardy Army of *English* Men, if an Invasion happen, and their Arms and Accoutrements reserved in the secure Custody of the respective Lieutenancies.

And

And that this, *Mineral* Undertaking may advance the Revenue a Million a Year, does plainly appear, by the great quantity of *Tin, Lead, Copper, Iron, Alum, Pearls, Salt, Marble, Pitch,* &c. now raised by a few Men in a year, and if so great quantities are raised now, a far greater quantity will be, when four times the force, and ten times the Art is added? And the Mines throngly sought into, and Discoveries Encouraged, by giving the First *Tin* raised of any *Metal* or *Mineral* to the first Discoverer, for a free Booty, and then each thing may be advanced to near a fourth part in price, to what it is now.

The Riches of the people will first be to the Gentry, or Proprietors of Land where these Discoveries happen, who will receive abundance of clear Profits, besides younger Brothers and Disbanded Gentlemen, will find suitable Employments in the Management of these affairs, as well as Persons of Honour who will be the Commissioners over it.

And if none of these, and the other Staple Commodities, be Permitted to be sold abroad, till they are some way Manufactured; as, the *Lead* into Sheets or Vessels, and the *Copper* and *Tin* into usual Vessels, &c. Trade must needs flourish, and Money Circulate freely amongst all Sorts of People, both Trades-Men and others.

Besides the Trade that will be caused in all the Remote Mountainous parts, by these Mineral Undertaking amongst each sort of Trades and Callings, as well those as Smiths, Carpenters, Coopers, Ropers, Refiners, Miners, &c. who are all employ'd in Works depending on them, and all other Mechanicks, who will gain by fitting those concerned in Mines, with necessaries for Food and Raiment, &c.

And if the poor have Liberty to Build Cottages on the Mountainous Peak, Moorelands and wast Grounds, and to Hedge in certain Acres of Ground, paying so much Chief Rent for certain years, and their Cottages to return after the expiration of the Term of years to the Land-lords, as in other places: And if a general Order be, that all persons shall Plant and Graft, all sort of Apple and Pear Trees, with Hops in all their Fences, and to plant Willow, Ash and Alder, with Hops also, in all the wet and low Grounds, and Banks of the Rivers.

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And



And every 10th Acre to be Planted with Acorns, for the Increase of Timber, so useful in all Mines; this will yield Lopplings for Fuell, for those Poor, and for Smelting the *Lead Ores*, felter the Cattle, and at last be a great advantage to the Lords and Proprietors, and to the Kingdom in general, by increasing Timber; and the Fruits will be of great advantage to the poor Families, and will improve both the wet and the barren Lands: And those years that Fruit happens plentiful, it will enable poor Tenants to pay their Rent, by the help of their Cyder and Hops, besides the vast advantage and comfort the poor Families will find other ways by them.

And this will cause those vast Desert Mountains and Vallies in the North of *England* and *Wales*, to be Inhabited and Improved, that are now of small value. I could not forbear to hint this Improvement, that one fourth of the Kingdom may be no longer waste ground of little use, but may be as thoroughly Improved as *China* or *Holland*: And those Parishes that have more Laborious poor People than there is Labour for, may be eased.

These Poor People when they come to Labour, will require substantial Food, as Bread, Beef, Mutton, Cheese, &c. and use, and wear, abundance of Manufactures made of Wool, Skins, Hides, and Tallow, all which are scarce now in this Kingdom, (but plentiful in *Ireland*,) their great scarcity here is occasioned by the great Rot of Sheep; the Tenants and Farmers, being forced to sell off their Stock faster than they could breed young, (which indeed of late years has not been worth while here in *England*,) except in a few Northern Countys, for whose supposed Interest, and of a few Grassiers, two whole Nations should not suffer; as *England*, for want of Stock a great part of this Last Autumnal Herbage lies in waste and the Farmers cannot pay their Rents. Again, *Ireland* abounds in such great plenty of all these things, that the small Prices of them will not pay Rents, and encourage the Farmers, as those who have Estates in *Ireland* too ill find by Experience.

And the scarcity of these things here causes a great deficiency in the Taxes given, and the Royal Revenues, as the Lords of the Treasury too well find, first in respect to the Excise upon Leather, the Tax upon Personal Stock,

&c.



and upon Malt and Distillers; and the Poor extremely feel the misery of it all.

But I humbly conceive, if it stand with the Wisdom of this Honourable House, to permit some limited numbers of Lean Cattle from *Ireland*, to be fed here, it would help the Farmers into Stocks, and render them capable to pay their Rents and Taxes; and also permit certain limited quantities of Corn to come up to the City of *London*, it would keep Bread, the Staff of poor Mens Lives to be always at a constant price; it would encourage *Ireland* and relieve *England*, and damage or discourage no body, but the Ingrossers, and Forstallers of Corn; and the Limitation of these imported, be appointed from time to time by Commissioners, that when Corn is scarce, or Dearth of Sheep and Cattle happen here, to order more, and in plentiful years and times to permit less; and Power placed in these Commissioners, to settle the Price at *London*, so that it may not damage the *English* Farmer, but relieve the Poor, and encourage Distillers, whose Art produces great Revenues, and the *Irish* Estates improved. 5 s. per Bushel in *London* for the best Wheat now made into Bread, is an equal price betwixt Farmer, Baker, and Eater, for I find that 3 s. 8 d. is a sufficient holding price in Corn Counties, as *Leicestershire*, *Nottinghamshire*, and *Northamptonshire*; and the Farmer gets sufficient if it holds within 4 d. and 6 d. a Bushel.

If these Cattle were permitted at a moderate Duty of 5 s. a Head of Beef, and other things answerable, it would enrich the Nation vastly, both in Duty and Customs: and the Staple Stocks and Manufactures, which employ the Poor, make Trade, and enrich the Merchants, Victual the Fleet, at one third less charge, and cause a free Trade, betwixt *England* and *Ireland*. And *England* have the Manufacturing of the *Irish* Products, and this will cause Tallow to be so plentiful, that Candles may admit of 1 d. pound Excise, and yet be as cheap, or cheaper than they are now, which according to a reasonable Computation, will amount to above 100000 l. per Annum, which Tax settled, may be a sufficient encouragement to the Subscribers for the Four Millions, to set forward the *Mineral* undertaking.

If Night-Walkers, petty Fellons, Perjurers and Vagabonds, with those under Condemnation, be sent to work in the Mines, wearing a Badge for a certain time, during the Sentence of the Judge, for their Misdemeanor or Crimes.

For more exact proposition of this, those Criminals whose Sentence is Death, may have Letters fixed with Gunpowder in their Cheeks, of a deep blew colour, and to wear a Ring on their left Arm, mentioning their Crime, and the part in which they are condemned to abide: for Instance, if a West-Country Offender, then sent into the *North*, if a North Country Offender, then sent into the *West* or *South*, and on pain of immediate Death, not to go above five Miles from the place he is ordered to serve in, and if they dare to travel or wander from thence, whoever shall bring them back, or carry them before the next Justice, (to have a Reward,) who must commit such Offender, according to Law provided for it, and whoever conceals such Offender, to be fined and suffer Imprisonment.

But none of the Poor need be compelled to the working against their wills in the Mines, because the labour is not very hard, and 10 *d.* a day for a Man, 6 *d.* for his Wife, and 4 *d.* for his Children, from 8 to 14 years old: makes it, if he have but two Children, 14 *s.* per Week, out of which he may live well in those Countries, and save Money to buy Cattel; and for this they may work industriously there, 6 or 8 hours, which is usually a Miners days work: Men or Women that want a Leg or an Arm can serve to toll Noses, and see that others appear at, and follow their work, during so short a stay as Miners work.

And again, the Night Walkers, Vagabonds, Perjurers and Felons, &c. need not be compelled by any Law, more than what each Justice of Peace executes now, in committing an Offender to be Whipt and beat Hemp, or the like, in a House of Correction, according to the Misdemeanor. And scarce a nice Whore, but will hire or serve Volunteer, for a Year and more, rather than be expos'd and whipt: and there is washing and knocking of Ores, which are Works that many good Mens Daughters are now glad to do, in many places of this Kingdom, for Bread for them and their Children; but the greatest punishment the Mines admit, is the wearing of a Badge, according to their Crime, their Task-

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Masters making them work longer, or in worse parts of the Works, but Complaint to the next Justice of Peace may relieve, if any be abused.

There are many poor Men now starving in Goals, who would be very glad to hire themselves to work in the Mines, having no Trades, or by their unfortunate Circumstances, rendred incapable of following them, if they had Trades, these despairing of Redemption from their unmerciful Creditors and Goalers, till Death discharge their Debt, they would bless your Memory for enacting a Delivery, and joyfully set off 2 s. or 3 d. *per diem* out of their Wages, towards paying their Debts.

Wherefore, I most humbly and sincerely beg, this Honourable House to take notice of the Oppression and Misery, (even near to Murder it self) daily Inflicted on the Poor Inhabitants, in and about *London*, by a sort of Merciless Tally-men, who are in Number about 60, the Marshals Prison is seldom without the greatest part of a Hundred of them perishing; and that stinking loathsome Prison of *White-Chappel* is always full of them, and such as lye for Debt under 40 shillings, or such like small Summs, but it is not modest or fit to relate in a *Christian* Nation, how miserably they are almost Starved to death, while their distressed Families must either Beg or Starve at home.

These Tally-men commonly make the poor Debtors pay 3 times over, as may upon occasion appear by 500 Presidents, of which I beg leave to Instance one, *viz.* *J. A--derton's* Wife, took up of *B--dall*, an ordinary Stuff for a Gown and Petty-coat, &c. (too dear at 35 sh.) at 4 l. 4 sh. and 4 d. to pay it at 2 sh. 6 d. *per Week*, he paid constantly till he had pay'd 3 l. 10 sh. but ceasing; then *B--dall*, as is their common Practice, Arrested *A--derton*, and forswore the greatest part of the Mony paid; he now much rather than go to *Goal*, (having not bail, as the Poor have but few Friends, and by Experience finding the Tally-men's Practices had well Learnt their 2 first Lessons, *viz.* Extortion and Perjury) consented to pay the Charge of 18 s. (their usual abuse) and allow their Account, and give a new Bill to pay yet 4 l. 16 sh. he pay'd of that 3 l. 10 sh. and then they Arrested him again, and he pay'd in Charges and Debt more, 4 l. 4 sh. and yet the pailtry things are not half paid for, altho' the poor man has paid 10 l.

E

These

[ 18 ]  
These Tally-men used to meet once a Week, at the *Bear in Basinghall-lane*, to shew each other their Books, and by that they know when a Customer goes to any other of the Gang, then no more a do, but send the poor *Christian* to the *Marshalls* or *White-Chappel* Prisons, (there to Rot and be Damn'd for a Rogue, as they Phrase it) and too many are carried out thence dead.

It is the opinion of many good Men, that if it stand with the Wisdom of this Honourable House, to Order a Court of Conscience, (like that in the City of *London*,) in *Westminster*, and the out parts of *London*, to decide and order all Summs under 40. *sh.* should be an Act of Piety and Charity, because a Poor Man, that by his Labour can Maintain his Family, Pay his Rent, and Taxes, but if Arrested for half a Crown, immediately he is run to a Spunging-House, and if by chance he has some more ways, it costs him 14 or 15 *sh.* before he get off, if not to Goal with him, whether the Debt demanded be real or not, and twenty to one, but that Poor Man is for ever undone: But a Court of Conscience will remedy this. I most Zealously offer this, with utmost submission, to your Pious Considerations.

Which will prevent the Horrid abuses daily committed by Villanous Bayliffs, and Marshalls Court, whose Extortionable tricks together with the too Large Fees of Law, in small Actions, abuse men for a Debt of a few shillings like Malefactors, as they did the other day, — that is, one of the *Rubbers* at the *Kings-Bagno* in *Long-Acre*, they sent hastily for to speak with him at the next Ale-House, and Arrested him on Suspition of Debt, but of 10 *sh.* and would not permit him to stay whilest a few wearing Cloaths could be brought, he had nothing on, save his Gown and Slippers, and the wet Linnen he had been at his Work in, but hurried him away in dreadful cold weather, to the utter hazard of his Health, to a Hellish Spunging-House, where their Gang run him to 15 *sh.* Charge, beside the Law, in 2 Hours time. Another most horrible Oppression is the putting Debtors amongst the notorious Malefactors, as is their unreasonable practice, where a Poor man is run right or wrong into the Common Side, no sooner in, but the Fiend like Crue fall on him for Garnish, and seldom leave Plundering him, till he is as naked and starved as they: Doubtless those Poor men now  
in



in Goal, that have not Trades to follow, would joyfully accept to Work about the Mines, and set off something towards Payment of their Debts.

Since I have Digressed from Minerals into Complaints of Oppression, I beg leave to add 1 or 2 Paragraphs more, that there is an ill Practice in the Liberty of *Westminster*, contrary to all others in the Kingdom (that I have yet observ'd,) which often ruins the hopeful beginning of many House-Keepers and Inhabitants, for very small Sums; as befele *Mr. S* a few days since, who kept House in the Liberty of *Westminster*, and paid 28 *l. per Annum*, the Beadle of the Parish came when he was from Home, and pretended to Attach his Goods, for 2 or 3 Mens Debts, one for suspicion of Debt under 10 *sh.* for *Coals, Bread, &c.* and another about 24 *sh.* and a 3d. for 6 or 7 *sh.* it so happened that in his business, (which is most Ingenious and useful) they give long Credit, he Owed about half a Years Rent, (but till then there was a good understanding betwixt his Landlord and he,) and this Beadle coming and Siezing in the Night, making havock of his Goods, an ill Report was presently carried to his Landlord, that he was running away with his Goods by Night, (which was impossible, because many of them were chargeable Furnaces which cost him many Pounds to fix: And he had been at a great charge to make himself and business publick, and several others of his things were not Portable but by great Carriages:) So the Landlord, sent and Siezed his Effects for the small sum of 14 *l.* immediately, turning his Wife and Children out of Doors although 11 a Clock at Night, pall'd up his Furnaces, Vessels and other Utensils, set those in Possession who gave scurrilous Answers to such as came as came upon business, which caus'd others that had Money due from him, to enter Actions, and his Apprentices that were designed for him with a considerable Summ, were put to others; and many other great Damages to compleat his present ruin, besides the disgrace intolerable to a Generous Spirit. And although he offered in a few days his Money, they would not accept it for Rent, and let him have Possession, neither would the Sheriffs Officers redress it by a *Replevy* in time, but continued their damnable Practice on him too; for although he gave in the Names of 6 sufficient House-Keepers for his *Replevy*, they were pleas'd to Return them all Insufficient, although one was

a Baronet



[ 40 ]  
a *Baronet* of a good Estate, another a *Goldsmith* of Repute, and a third a *Man* worth 100 *l. per Annum*, and the rest good House-Keepers in Publick Employ. But what need I wonder? For *J. A.* his Cows were illegally seized but for 30 *sh.* and they Returned him more insufficient than these, and he was 12 Weeks before he could get a *Replevy*; altho it cost him 2 *sh.* or half a *Crown* a time, for the Bailiff they employ to Return non-sufficiencies, (who would no doubt at 2 *l. 6 d.* a piece Return the Lord Mayor, and Court of Aldermen too, insufficient,) and by this way and one expence or other beside, it cost the poor man 3 *l.* or more, and one of his Cows lost also, before a *Replevy* could be had. But I humbly conceive, the first may be Redressed, by suppressing those ill Proceedings of seizing Inhabitants Goods, with giving a Summons first to the Defendant, or by a Court of Conscience, and the latter by causing the Sheriff to take any House-keeper that will swear themselves worth the Debt, as in other Bails, before a Judge.

There is a Merciless Extortionable and Oppressing Court, held in the Town of *Namptwich*, in the County of *Chester*, whose Writs for a few Pence are so Chargeable as the *Kings-Bench* is for 1000 Pounds, which not only hurts the Markets, makes a Litigious People, but Ruins many Poor Families and Travellers. I humbly conceive, if this Honourable House would order some fit Clause relating thereto, be added in the Bill for taking off Writs of *Capias* near 40 *s.* it would happily prevent future Wrongs of this kind.

These Mineral Affairs may be as truly manag'd by a Board of Commissioners in *London*, whose power may influence proceedings, by Ingenious Gentlemen, who are propense to Mineral Studies, and understand Mines, Soughing, Levelling, and Refining, &c. in each County where Mines are found; as the Lords of the Treasury, and the Board of Excise, do matters in the Revenue.

For Instance, if a Gentleman in the Country, supposing he has Mines in his Lands, Petitions the Board to have them wrought; by this encouraging Assistance, the Commissioners can then order, whom they appoint in that County or Country, to View, and Report the Encouragements to venture in that part; and the Commissioners, according to that Information, order two, four, or six Miners to Work the same to a Proof; if it succeed well, both the King and Proprietor gain,

gain, if not, the loss of two Mens labour for a few Weeks is not much, and the Proprietor loses nothing but expectation at work, and there's few places but afford some Mineral or other worth gaining.

A distinction of Duty is usually considered betwixt Countries that have large Veins of Ores, and are very mountainous, and those that have not so great probability: for Instance,

If a fifth or sixth part be given for a Duty in *Cornwal*, a seventh or eighth is sufficient in *Derbyshire*, *Leicestershire*, *Staffordshire*, *Shropshire*, *Cheshire*, *Lancashire*, *Yorkshire*, *Bishoprick of Durham*, *Northumberland*, *Cumberland*, *Westmorland*, *North and South Wales*, *Devon* and *Somersetshire*.

And in *Nottinghamshire*, *Lincolnshire*, *Rutland*, *Northamptonshire*, *Warwickshire*, *Oxfordshire*, *Huntingtonshire*, *Cambridgeshire*, *Hertfordshire*, *Bedfordshire*, *Buckinghamshire*, *Sussex*, *Essex*, *Kent*, *Middlesex*, *Berkshire*, *Wiltshire*, *Gloucestershire*, and *Hampshire*, a 12th part, and liberty to the Proprietor to venture what share he pleases, not exceeding one Mo:cy.

And all those that have Mines, and do work them, shall enjoy them according to the present Right and Custom: and for Relief of such, whose Mines now or shall stand, through the Poverty or Insufficiency of the Possessor or Undertaker (as in the *Kings-Field* in *Derbyshire*) the Kings Agents shall take the Mines, if they like it, and allow the Possessor a sixth part, besides the Lords Duty, or a Sum of Money, which the Possessor shall please.

There are several Mines of rich Ores got in the Mid-land Countries, besides the pretious Stones now to be seen in our *Museum* at *Oxford*, many of which were found in *Barkshire*, and poor people are now employed by some curious Men who live in *Oxford*, to seek for them; neither may I omit the *Earl of Abingdon's* curious Collection of that Kind.

An excellent sort of brown Copper Ore is found on *Black-Heath*, near *London*, that yields more than half Copper; but at *Apothecaries-Hall*, where I had it, they say that they made two thirds out of it. And Mr. *Houghton*, in his Collection of *Husbandry and Trade*, Published Mines of Lead and Copper in 15 Miles of *London*; and I know many places some distance from *London*, not Mountainous, that Lead Ore has been Ploughed up in good Quantities, as they Till the Land;

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and

and there is few Lime-Stone Grounds but some profitable Mineral is found in it, and one that I know of that affords both Lead and Copper in plenty, but most of the Copper was thrown away by their Ignorance.

His Grace the Duke of *Devonshire*, (and several others of the Noble Lords) were pleased to Read this Copy in Manuscript before *Christmas*, and were graciously pleased to return me their opinion, saying, they should be glad to see it well understood and practised, and that his Grace would be well contented with an *8<sup>th</sup>*. for he never yet had above a *York*. for his Duty, tho his Mines are as Promising as others, and his Royalties as Large.

These things I sincerely offer as my Mite, into the great Treasury of so Wise, Pious, Righteous, Merciful, just and Valiant Protestant King, not to be Parallel'd under the Canopy of Heaven; and to the Wisdom of so Prudent, August Body of Noble Lords, and Ingenious Gentlemen Assembled in Parliament; Who I hope will not at all be mistaken in their Politics, in securing and defending the Nation, and the Sacred Person of His most Excellent Majesty, who has neither spared His Body, Blood, nor His own Revenues, to save us, leaving not the least Foot-step for distrust in His Subjects, save in those whom *Solomon* in these words, advises against *Conversing with, My Son, Fear God and the King, and meddle not with those that are given to Change*. And I question not, but that you plainly see that the Authors of some late Pamphlets against a Convenient Army, and the Seamens Reasons, have taken some Dose of Pills Gilded with *French Gold*, that strongly Punges and Vomits, Promises Allegiance, Loyalty, Oaths and Religion too, and leaves the Patient Subject in an ill habit of Body, and so raises the Vapours of Rebellion, which is seldom Cured without *Hemlock*.

Though I hear abundance of Loyal Subjects marmer against a Gentleman unknown to me, that first proposed to reduce it to 7000, as if he had taken a Dose, but I have more Charity than to believe it; and he being suddenly asked the Question, Answered, but in part meaning this Number to be the Body Guard; because he questionless knew, the great Army on Foot in *France*; their Fidelity in Promises and Leagues, and the short Cut over, when our Trusty *Tarpolins* are lost in a Fog or driven by side Winds to another Point, or sick by a Dose of

of Pills; and how *Rebellious Ireland* can be defended by 12000, they say is past their understanding, except *France* forget their old Customs, and the Fleet prove always to be useful, or more Trusty and Ready than we expect possible: But your Wise Proceedings ought to be full satisfaction to all that it concerns, and what those Ungrateful, tho' Politick Fatches, tend to, which insinuate that a convenient Guard of Men are dangerous, and may beset the House of Commons, at the Command of such a King: Whether this be from an ingrateful Subject, or Politick Rebel, Your Wisdoms can the best Judge.

Neither is it possible for an *English* Parliament to do any thing against their own Safety and Advice of a Wise King, whose Counsel and Conduct in the great Affairs he has so managed, to the Astonishment of his Enemies, that all the Kings and Princes, so far as the utmost ends of the Earth, Admire his Prudence, and desire him their Mediator.

Wherefore, you knowing him to be a King after your own Hearts, and tho' His Most Excellent Majesty had his Opinion of a strong Forces at Land, yet if you esteem it otherwise, he knowing your Loyalty, will content himself with his Yeomen of the Guard as sufficient: For it is most certain, knowing your Fidelity, Gratitude and Loyalty, and your unanimous proceeding to be Invincible, and you, whose Wisdom finds out the most curious Knowledge of Witty Inventions, can find Ways and Means to make the Nation even 20 times stronger than with a standing Army: For if you please but to make it Treason to speak against His Majesty: And that all *Romish* Priests and Enemies of the Government, upon severe Penalties, depart the Kingdom, and all that will remain Papists, to Sell their Estates, and quit this Realm, on pain of ———, will be great Security, but much more when you appoint on sufficient Penalty, all House-keepers that have taken the Oaths, immediately to provide and keep good Arms for a Foot-man or a Horse-man, and to be Exercised the first Day of every Month, each Parish or Township by certain of the Disbanded Officers, paying these Officers as a Premium, 6 d. or 12 d. each House-keeper: And instead of an Idle Chargeable Army, establish an Army of Trusty, Laborious *English*-men, out of those Miners and Men, who Work the Mines, (whose Arms, when out of Duty, may be kept by the Lieute-

Lieutenancy) will not only help to defend and strengthen, but wonderfully Enrich and Improve, both the Royal Revenues and the whole Realm, that even the whole World will be amazed, to see the Blessing, Wisdom and Unanimous Faithful Spirit attending all your Proceedings.

That the Blessing of God, and his Holy Spirit may always attend your Counsels, is the Prayer of him, who desires to Live no longer than to see these things settled and brought to perfection. And is diligent to approve himself

*Your Honour*

Jan. 4. 1693: From my  
House at the Sign of the  
Honourable Esq; Boyl's  
Head, in York Buildings.

*Most Obedient Servant,*

*Whilest,*

**M. STRINGER,**

*Printed by*



## POSTSCRIPT.

THE Description returned me by Mr. *Brown*, so much intrusted by His Majesty in Affairs to *France*, may necessarily be added in this Place, for plenary satisfaction to all Friends who are uneasy at the Disbanding of the Army.

(*Suits de*) I narrowly inspected the Court of *Versailles*, and City of *Paris*; the First is very Magnificent and full of Grandure, and the Latter makes a fine shew, with Buildings, Pageants, open Shops, whose gaudy distinguishing Signals to know a Draper from the Mercer, &c. looks amazing: But when I walked a only Miles from *Versailles* or *Paris*, into the Villages, the Inhabitants looked like drooping Plants in *Autumn*, their Children appear gasty, with Death in their Faces, like Plants that are just sprung up, and yet at the same time descending into the Earth again: And altho' the Court is so Splendid, yet, (not to mention Disbanded Officers, who crave Alms daily in the Streets, with Feathers in their Hats) in several Shops in *Paris*, where I had occasions, as Thread Shops, Cutlers, Haberdashers, &c. when I gave a Crown Piece to have Change again, would still ask, have you no less Change, and send to half a dozen Shops or more, before they could Change it, which argues as much slenderness in their Tradesmens Stocks, as feebleness in the Country and Husband-Man's. Wherefore need any say what a strong Army has *France*? And how few have we in Arms? For let such but consider that *France* has need in the present Circumstance and Constitution, to Line and Keep all their Gates, Streets and Holds, with all the Force they can, for fear the afflicted Subject should — and on the other Hand, in *England* and *Ireland*, here is occasion little Force save Spades and Ploughs, and every Mans diligence to Till and Improve his Land, and enjoy thankfully the Fruits of his Labour, trusting in the sure Mercies of God, and the excellent Government we are so Blest with. And again, what need we gamble at the Charity of our most Gracious King, in receiving the afflicted Refugees, when one fourth of the Kingdom is so waste, that it can necessarily employ 100000 of them, for Improvement both in Tilling the Surfaces, and gaining the Subterraneous Treasures.

Our Mines being Improved by the Author, &c. we have now *Copper*, &c. in such plenty, that many Tuns have been Transported, after Manufactured here at Home, whereas formerly we were forced to send our Money for it, and the Memory of the Famous Sir *Clem.* and Sir *Talbot Clarke* must not be forgot, whose daily practice was to take *Silver* out of *Lead*, without Diminishing of it in Value, and *Gold* out of *Copper* or *Silver* in like manner; and by reducing our common *Lead* into Red or White *Lead*, and take out at least, 14 l. Value of *Silver* in every Tun; and also out of *Copper*, by converting it to *Ver-degrise*, which is above 20 l. per Cent. improved above the Metal, besides the *Silver* that was in it, and the *Gold* from it, also of a higher Carat. I had like to omitted some Worthy Members of the Chimical Art, particularly he that has introduced the making of the *Golden Licharge* from the common *Lead*, which is above 20 l. per Tun, and at the same Operation, takes out great quantities of fine *Silver*, of which he makes his Household Plate, with an Alloy of *Venus*; and that famous *Baptisto Moreo*, for his Fixation (*De Mercure commun en Argent souffrant la Coupelle*;) and the *Venetian* Captains *Golden Metals* and *Fringes*, or rather the *Matchecadoor Corinthian Brass* in *Dutroumy*. And if Sir *Carbery Price* his Mines are worth what they pretend, which I much suspect, then the *Mercurian Tincture* that operates upon all sorts of Mines, may make it double the Value; I must not omit *Johannes Sejervus Wedenfeilst* Manufacture of *Salz Peter*, from his *Aqua Furioso*, by which some have burnt their Fingers, for want of due patience; as also his Conversion of *Jupiter* into *Regulus*, and then make it all Evaporate but the *Luna*, by which Work is got 10 l. by every 100 weight of *Tin*.

The Inrichment of this Kingdom, consists of a National Fishery, and of our Mines, Growths, and Manufactures.

It is evident that Populacy is the greatest National Wealth, both in Peace and War, for by their Industry they will make Riches, a Flourishing Trade which is the next cause of Treasure.

The National or Royal Fishery, well Settled by a regular Management, would be a means to regain our Trade, and provide for our Poor; the World must own, that once England had the way to Raise from 2 or 300 Fishing Ships, to 7 or 800. without Raising Money, or forcing men to Fish, or Eat Fish; and that way that Raised it once, may Raise it again; But provided

[ 7 ]  
vided it be done, 'tis no matter how; with Money or without, 'tis sufficient; for Raise but a Fishery, and *England* cannot want Trade. And the Art of our Preserving and Curing of Fish is not lost, as some Writers Pretend, but Improved: This Subject would take Volumes to wright of its Praise, and how we may at pleasure drain the Riches of our Neighbours, but I shall refer you to the Books and Papers writ on the Fishery, by Sir *James Sheen*, and Capt. *Lovit*, &c. who ought to be Encouraged therein.

The Soil of *England* Produces as good *Hemp* and *Flax* as any abroad, and at this day we make as fine white *Hollands*, *Cambricks*, &c. as come from Forreign Parts; but of all our Late Manufactures Improved, next to Mr. *Flemings* from our Growths, &c. Commend me to Madam *Britania*, who by her *Aqua Gradationis*, &c. Produces curious *Silk*, which will make severall sorts of Manufactories, as Fringes, &c. and Employ many of our Poor Weavers now, that *Silk* is so Dear, and will well deserve encouragement, by Laying a Tax on all sorts of Forreign *Buffs*, *Inckle*, and all Forreign *Tarnes*, the last and greatest Improved of our Manufactories from our Wool.

Which so soon as our Glorious Prince *Edw. 3d.* had with great Charge and Industry, Taught this Nation to Manufacture their *Wool* at Home; it did prodigiously encrease the Wealth and Populacy of this Nation, Raised the Rents and Value of Lands, and lessen'd the Charge of the Poor, (which is now the far greatest Tax the Nation Pays,) all the Handy-craft Trades of this Nation are either employed in, or subservient to our Manufactures, all which our succeeding Princes well observing, fortified them with advantageous Laws; yet through the Negligence and Knavery of some self Interested Natives we are abused. It's Enacted that no *Wool*, &c. be Transported till Manufactured here at Home, its also to be wished, that no Woollen Cloaths, Stuffs or Stockins, might be Exported till Dyed, Drest and Finished; for it is well known that *Worcester*, *Glocester*, *Salisbury*, *Lancashire*, *Yorkshire*, *Somersetshire*, or any other County, from whence White Cloaths are brought; if so Transported, is Cent. per Cent. less to the Nations profit: Besides, Thousands of Families almost Starve; as for Instance, *Clothiers*, *Cloath-workers*, *Shearmen*, *Fullers*, *Dyers*, *Coitoners*, *Calenders*, and *Drawers*, &c. (formerly the Solicitors (if not now,) to prevent Transportation

tion of *Wool*; have been like *Water-men*, and brought Lame Bills to prevent better,) by the ill Practice of those who have been licensed to send over *White Cloaths*; and its not Impossible or Impracticable, to Transport *Wool* by making it into *White Cloath*, for Example, if our fine *Wool*, be slight Spun, Wound and Milled up into seeming thick coarse *Cloth*, like a very thick Rug or Blanket, and then be Transported by them to Forreigners who can easily unravel it, (and its well worth their while) who cannot use their own, without a mixture of ours; and after Return them Manufactured upon us, to our great Reproach and Impoverishment.

A little assistance from the Honourable Parliament, will now make this Nation in a short time, the most flourishing in the World, by cherishing & encouraging our *English* Manufactures, these being the chief. There is 2 *Papists* Patents should be destroyed, i. e. The Licensing *White Cloaths* undrest, and that of the *Alnage*, tho a Tax be made of the same *Commodity* in lieu thereof, for any thing given for the Publick is well, but all Private Acts that are in Prejudice to the Trade and Publick should be — and are, or ought to be void in themselves. Our Enemies abroad who have been by Providence hitherto disappointed, of injuring us in our Trade, and our Coin, which is to be Attributed to our Glorious Prince *William III.*

As Blood is to the Natural Body, so Trade is to the Politick; for if our Money do not regularly Circulate, in Trade, and our Manufactories Improved, we shall fall into Distempers and without Redress, inevitably Perish. The Enemies of our Trade and Manufactories are, viz. Lotterys, Stock-jobbing, Buying Sea-mens Tickets at a fourth Part, and Imprisoning for small Debts. And its an Act of great Civil Prudence, and Political Wisdom, to set at Liberty our Manufacturing and Trading People, who are the Strength and Treasure of a Kingdom for while the Father Flies for want of Work, or Lies in Prison, the Children are brought up in a Trade of Begging or Sealing, But in other Manufacturing Country, a Beggar is a rare sight, and no Poor Kept in Prison, which is an Act of *Christian Charity*, and is one of the Principal *Christian Vertues*, truly worthy the Imitation of all good Men; but letting our Brethren Starve for want of Work, or Lye in Prison, is one of the greatest Reproaches that can be imputed to us, in Relation to our *Christian Profession*.